

S K Y W A T C H

0000000000000000

I S S U E

1977/78

SK2 55E, England.....Editor: David L. Rees...

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Investigation Team.....Founded in: 1973

Editorial Address.....

17, SHETLAND STREET, WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO, CANADA, M2M 1X5

"AN ANSWER TO SPACE TRAVEL?"

THE MOEBIUS STRIP:

The Moebius Strip is a well-known geometrical curiosity. It consists of a narrow length of paper - AB - CO - the end of which are joined, after a half twist in the paper, so that AB is NOT joined to CO but to DC. This gives a ring of paper, with one surface and one edge - neglecting, of course, the thickness of the paper. If the paper strip is now cut lengthways, halfway through its width, a single twisted strip is obtained, twice as long as the original piece, and with four half-turns in it. If it is cut anywhere except half-way through, two twisted and interlaced strips result, of different lengths and widths. The strip and its properties have raised some curious hypothesis touching upon the mystery of parallel worlds. For instance, one may speculate

Upon the situation of a humanity living in a two-dimensional world like the Moebius Strip. If the strip were cut lengthwise, one part of that humanity would pass into another world, which would thereafter have only a single very slender point of contact with the other part, although would still be linked with it. According to whether the paper is cut at one third, one quarter or halfway along its width, other and unfamiliar two-dimensional worlds will result from the first world. This hypothesis, built up as an analogy, may, it is thought, help to explain the Philadelphia Experiment.

By Michael T. Cottrell.

Ref: The Mysterious Unknown, published by Corgi books, written by Robert

Charroux.....

[illegible]

ADVERTISEMENTS

COSMOLOGY NEWSLINK: Still available - Special Jubilee issue - 64 pages packed with National and International UFO News. Only 30p a copy! Write to: Edward Harris, Editor CNK, 37, The Close, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1EW.....

THE ESSEX UFO STUDY GROUP: requires UFO reports and related material - foreign material especially - for publication in the Group's journal. Full credits given and free journal if published. Send to the Secretary, Mrs.G.Saville, 16, Raydons Road, Dagenham, Essex, England.....

FORESIGHT: A bi-monthly magazine concerned with the spiritual aspects of man's being, seeking to bring about a greater awareness of life and its meaning; dealing with Mysticism, Philosophy, Psychic Phenomena, UFOs and World events. Subscription: 90p plus postage. Write to: Foresight Organisation, 29, Beaufort Avenue, Hodge Hill, Birmingham. B34 6AD. England.....

NORTHERN UFO NEWS: Monthly newsletter of the Northern UFO Network. Details from Miss Jenny Randles, 23, Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester, M30 6NJ..

COMMENTARY: is published by the UFO and Related Unexplained Mysteries Group, (UFORUM) in Sheffield. A new publication, well worth a read. Write to: Miss Linda Thompson, 40, Badger Road, Woodhouse, Sheffield 13, South Yorkshire.

UFO INFO EXCHANGE LIBRARY: Is a free service to any group or individual who is involved in serious UFO research. For copy of magazine and details, send a large SAE to: Doug Chaundy, 34, Constable Drive, Worle, Weston-super-mare, Avon.....

LANTERN: includes items on Ghosts, UFOs, Geomancy, Ley Lines, etc. 4 issue
Sub: 75p. Write to: Ivan Bunn, 3, Dunwich Way, Lowestoft, Suffolk.....

READERS LETTERS - LETTERS FROM READERS

[illegible]

Dear David,

.... Please allow me to make some remarks on SKYWATCH 24. On P 9 O.J.Parry states that "UFOs are perhaps causing the earthquakes in some way". But is it not the other way round? The light phenomena associated with some earthquakes may very well be electrical discharges of some kind associated (or produced by) with earth tremors. We should prevent from seeing UFOs everywhere! Also on P 14 you ask me to keep you informed on the chatelaineau pictures allegedly taken on 1st February. As you may have seen in UFO INFO No.2 (P 3-6) investigations led to the conclusion they were "fakes": a paper UFO stuck on glass and then photographed against a landscape background (see drawing on P5). Fake UFO pictures seem to be in the market! On July 20th a man claimed to have taken a UFO photo at St-Maria-Latem. But it soon became obvious we were dealing with a small model, suspended in the air and then photographed. The idea of a UFO Conference by D.G.Frost (P 15) is very good. But it will never work, unfortunately. We, in Belgium, have already twice tried to set up a "Federation" very much like the kind proposed by M.Frost. And immediately problems begin:

If you want to unite researchers, then you will invariably also get a certain number of crackpots. How they would possibly agree with other researchers who are, let us say, scientifically trained or orientated, I cannot see. Experience has learned this! You can, of course, cut some persons or groups out; but then the conference has lost its aim of bringing together ALL interested parties. On July 28th there was a debate on UFOs at the astrophysics institute of the Brussels University. Jacques Bonabot (GESAG) and myself were opposed to M. Gantois of the Belgian astronomical society. This society has up until now always adopted a very negative attitude towards "UFOs and other sorts of pseudo-sciences" (sic!) The main point developed by M. Gantois was that all UFO sightings can be explained if you search hard enough for an explanation. His favourite author was of course Philip Klass. He further stated that UFOlogy is based on a few "classic" sightings: once you can identify one of those, the whole of UFOlogy falls to pieces. In the course of the debate we were able to show M. Gantois that his statements were not correct. It became also obvious that he could not say very much on the subject we brought something up that Klass had not written about in his books. And he really had to pass when all those cases were discussed where physical traces had been found (see for example the work of Ted Philips). At the end we found ourselves agreeing on the fact that a small percentage of UFO reports had not as yet satisfactorily been explained. But M. Gantois did not find it the trouble of investigating further. Of course, we disagreed with this conclusion. As a result of this debate we were able to express our opinion on UFOs in a national broadcast on Flemish radio (BRT 1).

Best Wishes, Rudy de Groote, Studiegroep Progressive Wetenschappen (SPW), Belgium.....

Dear Mr. Rees,

I have had much to do this summer time. On June 23rd, the Danish Television service brought a UFO Programme out produced by one of our famous TV Journalists - Robert Christiansen (with help from SUFOI). And it has received a fine reception by UFOlogists in Denmark. Many people have asked for specimen copies of UFO(NYT), and number of subscribers are increasing. During the summer months many papers have brought out articles on "UFO sightings" in various parts of the country. Most, or almost all of them, turned out to be known phenomena seen under unconventional circumstances!

With all the best, Karen Linnehal, Skandinavisk UFO Information, Denmark.....

Dear Mr. Rees,

Thank you for the copy of MAPIT SKYWATCH No.25 Aug/Sept. issue which I received the other week. I found it most interesting and once again wish to praise Miss Jenny Randles for her outspoken comments about the BBC Documentary "Out of this World". It was a complete flop and I'm sure it has done more harm than good. It is this crackpot image that has been put across to the public by such programmes as "Out of this World" that make people afraid of opening their mouths should they spot anything. One way to kill a true story is to make that story look ridiculous. Keep up the good work, Jenny.

Yours sincerely, Jack Allen, Crewe, Cheshire.....

MAPIT MAPIT MAPIT MAPIT

WHERE HAVE ALL THE MARTIANS GONE? Jenny Randles

It used to be that you could not pick up a UFO magazine, or even a national newspaper, without reading of the latest visitation by a man from Mars or Venus. Nowadays the little green men appear to have crawled back into their ice-lined craters or shivered up in the inferno-like heat of their alleged homes. Where have they all gone, those nice, pleasant, spacemen of yours?

It is certainly an important question to ask. Let us look at some of the more recent contacts cases and see what we have been invaded by. We discovered last summer that a lady in Little Lever, Bolton, had a supposed encounter in 1963. She describes a being wearing a suit of dark rings entering

her bedroom. He was friendly, and thanked her for believing and not being frightened! She was told that he came from Pluto. (Despite the temperatures close to absolute zero he did not appear to mind the heat down here). (1)

Also last year, a gentlemen in West Yorkshire claimed that he was abducted into a golden UFO by some miserable-looking creatures in silver suits. They had ashen-grey faces and cat-like eyes (no doubt that that one was pinched from the Betty and Barney Hill saga). These entities said to poor old Mr. L., when he tried to find out one or two things about them - such as their home address - that he was an insignificant being like a worm and 1000 years were like a day to them. (Oh dear, we are back with Biblical quotations!) (2)

Over in Belfast a lady has regular visits from some friendly spacemen (with a vicious streak). They pop in to see her as often as the milkman. Only trouble is, nobody else can see them. They wear bright clothes (no space suits) and live on the dark side of the moon, plus invisible or hidden planets. They take her for joyrides all over Ireland and 'protect' her by performing nasty effects on those who wrong her. (I hope she does not read this and think I am making fun of her - or I might get zapped by a death ray). (2)

Next we have the classic encounter of Joyce Bowles and Ted Pratt near Winchester. (3). They believe that Jimmy Hill has given up commenting on football matches and taken to riding cigar-shaped UFOs. Their drawing of the six-foot, bearded entity in a baco-foil suit looks remarkably like him. There have now been three claimed encounters by Mrs. Bowles and Mr. Pratt (they're just good friends - honestly!) Both of the first two saw them together in Mrs. Bowles' car, and the second involved a teleportation where the entities showed them all kinds of equipment and Mrs. Bowles had a terrifying time (cracking jokes with them - quite remarkable considering on the first meeting she was holding tight to Ted Pratt in fear - well, she says it was fear!) The final contact did not involve Mr. Pratt.

All of these encounters occurred in Britain and were reported last year. They are perhaps a measure of how far we have come since George Adamski met his long-haired Venusian. Yet we have our own Venusian in 1977. This is a way out case, being followed through by mystle and Peter Warrington involving a fellow who claims to be an alien himself. You can laugh. We did.....at first (4).

What do we have? A multiplicity of origins, behaviour and types of entity. This is quite significant. The mundane origins of the fifties have now been dropped. Probably this is because we are now more aware of the unlikelihood of life in our solar system and so more exotic origins are required.

I believe that this factor signifies that we are NOT dealing with visitors from space. The multiplicity of origins is but one factor, out of many others (to be expanded upon in the book (4)). It shoes, I fell, that such contact cases have very personal orientations - very personal ones indeed. You might say that whatever you want to see you will see (to a point, at least). The contact experience occurs in a frame of reference which is acceptable to the mind of the individual who perceives it. Whatever that meant it is important - and points to the probability that even the most improbably early contact claims may well have been true - in the sense that any of the current contact claims are true. In other words - it really happened - but it didn't happen really. Come back, George - all is forgiven!

REF:

- 1: Flying Saucer Review Vol 22 No 3 Randles J
- 2: Flying Saucer Review Vol 22 No 6 Randles J
- 3: Flying Saucer Review Vol 22 No 5 Messrs. Harris, Ledner & Nash.
- 4: A privately published report on this case has been produced by Peter Warrington of MUFORA. Copies may be available from him. (125 Beresford St. Manchester M14 4RY) The full story, in much greater detail, is to be shortly included in the book: "UFOs: A British Viewpoint". Randles J & Warrington P. Due for 1978 publication.

Flying Saucer Review, West Malling, Maidstone, Kent. £4.20p (6 issues 32p full glossy with photographs).

..... STARS AND UFOs

Have you ever wondered what the stars think of UFOs? The people you see on Television and Films? Well, below is just a small sample of those stars who have made their thoughts known to the public:

1. JACKIE GLEASON has one of the largest UFO libraries in the United States.
2. GLEN FORD believes there is tangible evidence of UFOs on Mars.
3. WILLIAM SHATNER believes in UFOs. He has never seen a UFO personally, but the evidence in their favour is so overwhelming that there is not the slightest doubt in his mind that they exist. (He played Captain Kirk in the US TV series STAR TREK).
4. ZA ZA GABOR insists UFOs are always in our skies.
5. WILLIAM ROACHE is interested in UFOs and related subjects. He says "UFO organisations are doing great work in opening the minds of officialdom and ordinary people!" (Ken Barlow in Granada TV's Coronation Street).
6. ANTHONY HOPKINS says: "I do not know for certain about UFOs, but I will go on record as stating that we must be surrounded in the galaxy by thousands of planets containing life forms of all types. Some may be more advanced than our species, and no doubt others are much more backward and undeveloped. Maybe they exist in another space-time continuum". He speculates, supporting a theory suggested by UFOlogists such as John Keel and Dr. Jacques Vallee.
7. ROY THINNES actually observed strange objects whilst driving through the Arizona Desert. "It was because of this experience", he says, "that I was eager to play the role of David Vincent in the series 'The Invaders'".
8. LEONARD NOMOY believes in UFOs because so many qualified observers and solid people have reported sightings that just can't be dismissed. He says: "Twice a year I go on lecture tours and people always ask me: Do you believe in UFOs? I tell them I have never seen one myself, but I believe there is life on other planets. And I believe it is possible that we have been visited or are being visited now". (He played Spock in the US TV series Star Trek).
9. ED STEWART: "As far as I am concerned, I have an open mind on the subject, but when I was younger, I saw over Simbledon Common what I was convinced was a UFO. I told my parents about it and they said I must have been day-dreaming. Looking back on the affair, I cannot say now whether my parents were right, for often with the passage of time reality and fantasy merge together. One thing I am certain about....I hope flying saucers or UFOs do exist, for they provide a lot of excitement for many people, and stimulate the imagination" (Ed is a Disc Jockey on Radio One - he presents Junior Choice).

If you know of any other Stars interested in UFOs, write with the details and we can print the items in a future Skywatch.

REFERENCES

1. UFOLOGY Vol. 1 No.3 May 26th 1977
2. As above.
3. SKYWATCH March April No.23 1977 and STAG newsletter No.20
4. As No.1 & 2
5. SKYWATCH June July No.24 1977
6. UFO REPORT Vol 4 No 2 June 1977
7. SKYWATCH Nov Dec Jan No.22 1976/77 and US Magazine Outermost.
8. National Enquirer 1st March 1977
9. LOOK IN Magazine date unknown 1974.

PAST HISTORY

By ROBERT GRACE

As I am interested in UFOs I am wondering why governments attitudes towards them are short of taboo. Since 1947, Mr. H. Arnold called them "Flying Saucers" (in actual fact Arnold never said "Flying Saucers": Ed). Further back in our history we have had mentions of UFOs, even during the last war. They were called "foo fighters" - the Indians in America called them "Thunderbird". All through history each nation had a name for them, yet even today you have sceptics that treat them as some disease like leprosy - "Some things are best left alone", they say. Past History has shown how the average layman can be fooled. Someone had an epileptic fit. "Oh, they have demons in their heads". All this has been handed down from generation to generation. Man has come through a lot in history, so he can pass the threat of world destruction. UFO occupants might help him in doing it. Since the dawn of man, and even before, our friends out in space have watched the progress of the world. What nature has given us is truly remarkable. They have seen us go to war and probably have said, "Well, we have gone through the same". When I think of the wonders that are possible in this universe and think of man - he is so puny. Astronomers throughout the ages have wondered at the night sky: "How can we be alone in this vast open universe". To think of the smallest thing, then the largest, is truly a miracle of miracles - the comparison is not in human understanding. The problem of time and space could be solved from the mirror image of a universe within a universe, like looking through a mirror. Inner space is the clue. UFO experts through time have had such a lot to contend with, does a UFO make sounds? humming or silent drive? are there different visitors from other parts of the cosmos? are they paranormal? So many theories; some UFO witnesses say they make a humming noise, some say they are silent; there is so much to learn. All shapes - round, oval, disc, cigar, even square. Is there any pattern in shape, sound and size? They all can't be different, not unless they are trying to fool us. As I've said - man has a lot to learn. Erich Von Daniken stated they have in the past colonised Earth and left remnants behind - quite possible. It seems that scientists can't agree on it. But what Erich has said in his books seems to have some foundations. I was curious about the two pillars, one in India, one in Germany, which, though made of metal, have never rusted through. All over the world they have found paintings, monoliths, articles that scientists just refuse to recognise that they may be extra-terrestrial. Man seems to have a naive streak in himself, like an ostrich with its head in the sand. Why does he shun what he can't understand? Now we come to the Flying Saucers' occupants themselves. What are their real purposes? Are they hostile? I think not, some people who have had contact with them say they are very beautiful in looks, like perfection in form. Are these the Angels that the legend of the Bible writings mentions? Could it be that they are not from this universe? Some people say they glide and do not touch the ground. I have been puzzled by the Bible, somewhat. Jesus stated: "Anyone who looks upon my face shall perish". What does this mean? What is the Ascension? Why say this in the Bible? Maybe Jesus was brought here by the Angels. He went to heaven in a pillar of cloud - notice not on a pillar of cloud. Has Brinsley Le Poer Trench got something here?. All what we are told in history is not true, because people in the past have accepted the word of the historians. People today are more curious than ever. Like Abraham Lincoln said: "We all can't be fooled at once".

THE POLISH SCENE

Have you ever wondered what UFO-related studies take place in Iron Curtain countries? Well, below a regular SKYWATCH reader enlightens us on this question

I have never seen any UFO Journals before, but I think yours is a good one. I am very interested in the UFO problem as it is going to be more and more important in the coming of the New Age. I believe they will play some part in future human history, if not deciding it. There are no UFO Groups in Poland,

nor are any native sightings reported by our press - only foreign sightings. But, judging from the book, "Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain", there is such work going on around here, but it is not officially reported by our press in Russia and Czechoslovakia. If it does interest you, there are Occultists in Poland, but not registered. What you do is just enough to gather and spread information about UFOlogy. It is your job to do it and get people prepared when Flying Saucers, according to many predications, come to take us away for the time being during hard times to come, and thus save the part of humanity from atomic destruction. My idea is that UFO Groups should spread free copies of UFOlogy Magazines in all countries, all over the world, amongst all peoples. We have in Poland established a small public free library with esoteric books. We organise lectures on the occult from time to time, too. I have read that there is a certain professor in Poland who is a member of a British UFO Society, or something like that. His duty is to immediately visit a place of UFO sightings in our country. (Do any readers know of this Professor?).

By MIŁOSZ WOZNIAK - SZCZECIN, POLAND.....

..... SIGHTING SECTION

The following sighting was sent to MAPIT by Bob Brace. It occurred in 1961.

"One night while still at school in Cypress Road (37), Winton, Eccles, M/Cr, at about 9.30 p.m. on a still clear night; I was in my bedroom which faced the Bridgewater Canal at the rear of the garden, with a playing field beyond, and also a woodyard alongside the canal. Above this yard I saw a brilliant red object. At first I thought it was a 'plane, but it didn't move away - just transfixed. How nobody else saw it, I will never know. I realise now after all these years what I saw. My mother was in her bedroom at the front and I shouted to her. She could not believe it. As a religious woman she said it was a religious sign for me. We had watched this for a good five minutes when it shot vertically upwards at great speed and disappeared. I sent a report form to the Essex UFO Study Group".

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UFO OVER WALES IN NOVEMBER 1973..... reported to us by Brian Jones, one of the witnesses.

He says: "I'd like to say that I became interested in UFOs when I saw a cigar-shaped object moving slowly and silently directly over the roof top of a small minimarket shop in Llanerch, Wales. At the time of the unforgettable incident, it was going dark and my friend, Stephen Paynter, then 14 years old, also witnessed the object. (He was standing/walking several yards behind me as we were both on our way to the shop which was still open). As I crossed the road towards the opposite pavement near the shop, I noticed the object, approx.100 feet long. It had 3 coloured lights, one yellow light at each end and one large red light exactly in the middle. In fact the yellow lights blended in with the street lamps and road lamps, which were on at that time of the evening. As I watched the strange object move silently across, I had a feeling as if someone was watching me from inside the Cigar UFO. I also at the same time felt a very faint feeling go through me, like electricity. There was also a woman putting a box of goods in her car, at the front of the shop, but she did not notice the object as she had her back to it. (I thought of shouting out to her but I couldn't, due to the astonishing sight of the UFO over the rooftop. It was not an illusion as I took my eyes off it for a few seconds to look at the woman. When the UFO finally travelled away over Lliedi River, and moved over a group of trees, I ran over to my friend to ask him if he had seen it. He said he had seen it. The object made no sound.

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DATE: July 13th, a Wednesday, 1977

Time: 22.45 (approx.)

LOCATION: Featherstone (Aketon) near Pontefract in Yorkshire.

WITNESS: The witness does not wish any publicity. Sex: Male.

"I was upstairs listening to some classical music, and wanted a smoke, so I

asked my mother to throw me up my cigarettes and matches. I didn't go back into my own room for a smoke, as it leaves a smell, but instead, as usual, I went into the spare bedroom, which faces, roughly, I think, southeast. I lit my cigarette and opened the window, and looking out, a bright golden light in the sky caught my eye. It was up to my right as I looked out of the window and was brighter than anything I'd seen before, even Venus, as I do a bit of Astronomy. It was moving slowly across the sky, from my right to straight in front of me, and although I can't say how high it was or anything, it seemed to be passing through the clouds. I watched it disappear behind the trees that stand behind our house, and saw it shine through the gaps in the branches a couple of times. When I could see it no longer, I slipped on my shoes, which were lying in the room, and ran downstairs, telling my father I'd seen something in the sky. I ran at the back and stood beneath the trees and caught sight of it again. Whereupon I called my father, who came and stood beside me. It was now a lot smaller and dimmer and we saw it pass through a cloud. My father returned to the house and I watched it for what I would say was roughly 3 - 4 minutes. As I said, I've done a bit of Astronomical observing, and it wasn't like anything I'd seen before. It wasn't a planet; certainly not a meteor, and nothing like an artificial satellite or any plane I'd seen before, as I've seen all the aforementioned things. It never made a sound". He also says that the object was "very bright, roughly better than Mag 5 and about twice as big as Jupiter when said planet is viewed through 10 x 50 Binoculars". "What struck me about the object", Ken continues, "was its intense Gold colour. It did seem to be solid, and if I had to describe its shape, I would say it was roughly Ovoid when I first saw it, although not in any way the classic cigar shape".

Ken Mitchell

UFOs OVER ESSEX

by Edward Harris - Editor, Cosmology Newslink

THE FLAP IS ON! Near landings, Giant circular 'wheels' in the sky, mysterious lights, and police cars stalled by unidentified flying machines in this area. This has been going on now since early this year.

Now its the same with the whole country! Wales, Manchester, London, etc., you name it and I bet the next issue of Cosmology Newslink, that if it hasn't been sighted in YOUR area yet, it soon will be!

Why all the UFOs pouring into England for 1977? Not for the Queen's Silver Jubilee, I bet. Whatever the reason, something is odd about UFO flaps. They occur and then dissipate away for a few years. Then we have the odd sightings, like the one in the USA where a silver machine landed on the roof of a block of apartments, a being got out, peeped over the top to the street below, and got back inside and flew away at a terrific rate.

To complicate matters for those who still don't believe THEY exist, well, this object left its evidence behind in the snow. One circular marking and footprints were found. Now this rates as near 'contact' as we can possibly get.

Still the questions arise...WHY ARE THEY COMING HERE? Everyone has their pet answer to that one. So try this one for size....how about the idea they do it as a kind of HOBBY? Ludicrous! Maybe! But consider the reasons why such a craft would BOTHER to keep coming here, for centuries. They must eat and drink like we do, if they are biological organisms, so if this planet didn't have some attraction for them, then why would they spend months cooped up in their machine, travelling here - even at their colossal speeds. Is earth just a huge food larder for them and just a stopping place before they go elsewhere?

Whatever the reason or reasons, I hope that before the end of this century we can get some REAL answers to the countless questions, and reams of paper spent on research into them, and that doesn't include the military's budget and fuel wasted in fruitless airplane chases after them.

TO THOSE SCEPTICS READING THIS, I can only say that unless they stop giggling at that stupid little square bot lit up in your house every night, you will NEVER be convinced of their reality. Go out, look, research, ask questions.... GET INVOLVED, before you say "phooey".

As a footnote: These are now a lot of respected people who once said "Phooey"and wished that they hadn't!..!

LIVING UFOs?

There are many sightings of UFOs where 'occupants' humanoid forms, etc., have been seen in or around the objects. Clearly this indicates that UFOs are some form of craft, and that these humanoids are the crews. But what if some, and I say some, for it is clear that a large amount of UFOs appear to be 'craft', what if some UFOs are beings in their own right? Call them what you like - entities, creatures, intelligences. Amorphous objects, objects which change colour, split up, change shape and so forth, account for a large number of UFO sightings, and it is hard to see how this class of objects could accommodate crews. But what if they were organic? a Life-form in themselves? I know all this sounds pretty fantastic, but why could not this be so? We ourselves are slowly learning how to replace natural body organs with machines and spare-part surgery and it is conceivable that in time we could do without organic bodies altogether, the brain becoming a descendant of today's so-called 'Ultra-Intelligent Machines' (UIMs). So by a stretch of the imagination it is possible to visualise a human machine' which could well be a spacecraft. But as I said, why could they not be organic? In most discussions about extraterrestrial life I've heard there seems to be a postscript to every supposition about alien life - 'life as we know it'. Why should it be 'life as we know it'? What if there exists a life form(s) which are naturally suited to living in space? We all know, or rather are told, that solid matter condensed out of gas clouds, etc. (I'd like to know what the gas clouds condensed out of, actually!), so what if a life form was born in space, so to speak? A creature(s) of space, not a planet? Maybe someone versed in the sciences could knock holes in this theory, probably saying that life, as we know it, couldn't exist in such conditions.

Ken Mitchell.

GIFT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS FOR THE UFO INTERESTED PERSON!

Compiled by David L Rees.....

Once again the Festive Season is with us, and over this period of the year many of you will be buying presents/gifts for your family, relations and friends. A lot of you, perhaps, will have UFO interested friends, and you may receive book tokens and money as presents from them. On the UFO front, what is there worth buying? Find below some recommended UFO material and Science Fiction items:

Why not treat yourself to six issues of the world-respected UFO magazine, "Flying Saucer Review"? Edited by Charles Bowel. A six-issue subscription is £4.20. Write to: FSR Publications, Ltd., West Malling, Maidstone, Kent.

UFO on Cassette! The first dramatised stereo documentary, narrated by Ed. Bishop (commander Straker in the UFO TV series), from a script by Charles Eric Maine. The cassette advances through its 60 minutes from the UFO scene today to mind-blowing concepts of creatures that live on the sun, spacecraft that travel faster than light to strange aerial devices erected on UFO power grid lines that enmesh our planet and many other terrestrial phenomena. The price is £2.75 plus 25p postage and packing. Write to: Ivan Berg Associates (Audio Publishing) Ltd., 35a, Broadhurst Gardens, Hampstead, London NW6 3QT...

The SKYWATCH UFO Detector MK 3. A device which will actually detect a UFO! A magnetic needle-type detector incorporating a solid state latching circuit and audio alarm. Battery operated. Price, incl. battery and P & P £9.00. Or send a SAE for explanatory literature. Obtainable from: Malcolm Jay, 102, Nelson Road, Chingford. E4 9AS.....

Flying Saucer Tie: the design shows a pattern of small, silvery saucers on a dark blue background. The necktie, in 100% polyester reppe weave, is available at £2.00 each. Write to FSR Publications Ltd., West Malling, Maidstone, Kent..

MAPIT-SKYWATCH TEE SHIRTS, for those summer months. They come in three sizes: Small, Medium and Large. They are £3.00 each including full washing instr. & P & P. Write to the Editorial Address.....

Sci Fiction Records and Cassettes, authors covered include Asimov, Bradbury Clarke, Verne, Heinlein and many more. There are some very good titles available e.g.: The Martian Chronicles /2001/Foundation, etc. For prices and further details write to: Andromeda Books Ltd., 57, Summer Row, Birmingham B3 1JJ.....

Recommended Books (Paperback only) - - - - -

Project Blue Book by Brad Steiger. The top secret UFO findings revealed. With 32 pages of official photos. Ballantine Books: Price £1.00.....

UFOs: The Psychic Solution by Jacques Vallee. Presents an entirely new and plausible theory on the true nature of the UFO Experience. Panther Price 85p.

Invisible Residents by Ivan T. Sanderson. Is there intelligent life beneath the waters of the Earth? Tandem. Price 40p.....

Tunguska - Cauldron of Hell by Jack Stoneley. The story of the mysterious explosion in Siberia in 1908. Star Books. Price 75p.....

How about a UFO in your living room? With the Flying Saucer Model Kit, you can have this. It is a model of the UFO seen in the TV series "The Invaders". It is 1/72 scale and comes complete with figures and base. Kit No. is 256, made by Aurora. So why not rush along to your local Model Shop. The approx. price is £1.75/£2.00.....

For all you record buyers, two records stand out this Christmas that have an out-of-this-world theme. The first is the LP entitled "Magic Fly" by "Space" on the Pye record label - some really good tracks, and the single entitled "Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft (the Recognised Anthem of World Contact Day)" - what a mouthful. It is sung by that Brother and Sister couple called the "Carpenters". All Middle-of-the-Road music fans will like this. It is available on the A and M record label.....

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GROUP NEWS

Well, this issue of SKYWATCH takes you, the reader, into 1978. What has MAPIT done in 1977? Well, a full report will appear in SW No.27. A request to ALL members - if you have any ideas on projects, or suggestions for improving the Group, please drop me a line!

Meeting Plans: Write and tell me what content you want at the next Group Meeting. Is there any particular area of UFOlogy that you would like to talk about? To make the next MAPIT Meet a success, tell me the best day (evening) and time for you. If there is not a good response on this, a date cannot be announced, so if you, the member, does not write I will take it a meeting is not wanted! I say this as there was not a good response to my mini-meeting suggestion, so tell me what you want!

Don't forget, members, that we have available for YOU a comprehensive and large reference Library on UFO and related subjects; there is NO charge for using this service and all researchers are welcome, anytime!

Subscribers to Flying Saucer Review may have seen our MAPIT SKYWATCH advertisement in its personal column - we have had a fair response.....

Thanks go to Mike Cottrell, for giving a mention of MAPIT in his letter to the Congleton Chronicle on the 8th September. He introduced a new UFO Group (CUFORT) "Congleton UFO Research Team".....

MAPIT rely on YOUR support! All contributions / Paper clippings most welcome at all times. If you have any suggestions or criticisms of the Group or SKYWATCH, don't keep them to yourselves - tell us and then we can look into them. SKYWATCH requires feedback from you, the members, to survive. MAPIT is YOUR Group, support it!!

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that can educate the General Public on the subject of UFO's. In America there are many available on newstands, e.g. Official UFO, UFOlogy, Flying Saucers, etc., and they appear to be very successful indeed. But if a magazine was produced, would the people buy it? I think yes. Some years ago there used to be a magazine published in the North West entitled "Phenomena". It

WINTER UFO LECTURE PROGRAMME IN MANCHESTER.

For something to do on those dark nights, how about coming along to some or all of the MUFORA Lectures to be held at the MITRE HOTEL, Cathedral Gates, Central Manchester (the Cannon Street side of Manchester Cathedral). The room is on the first floor and doors open 7.30 p.m. Meetings last from 8.0 p.m. to 10.0 p.m. Entrance will be 25p. There will be an informal lecture followed by a discussion.

1. December 14th - "Atmospherical Optical Phenomena" - K.Brierly FRAS.
2. January 11th - "Some Significant British Cases" - Jenny Randles
3. February 8th - "Open Forum". Air your own view. Chaired by Jenny Randles and Peter Warrington.
4. March 8th - SUBJECT TO BE DETERMINED BY THOSE ATTENDING EARLIER MEETINGS.

(The above dates were correct at time of publication - DLR).

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THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU

As the Secretary and Editor of MAPIT - SKYWATCH, may I thank all the British and Foreign contacts we have been corresponding with this year, 1977, and I hope 1978 sees further relations between Groups, etc. improving. I wish all members, readers, Groups, researchers an MERRY AND JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

David L Rees.....

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UFO FILM

Watch out for a new film, due for release this Winter/New Year. The title is "Encounters of the Third Kind". Although it is possible that the title could be changed. David Begelman, President of the Picture Division of Columbia, has said of the film, "It is the most important film ever financed and distributed by Columbia". It is being made by the same team who made the hit movie "Jaws"; it dramatises UFO encounters, landings, etc. So it should have a bite in it - the film I mean!

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Y O U E F O H S by David L Ree.

UFOlogy in Britain has always been well catered for in the case of UFO publications; by this I mean Local Group Journals. They come in various shapes and sizes ranging from a one-page newsletter to cover-bound journals. Some of the excellent publications available at the moment include "Irish UFO News", edited by John Hine; "EUFOG Journal" edited by Dan Goring. Both of these magazines are appealing to the eye of the General Public. But do the public obtain them without being a member? The answer is NO, because they are directed at the UFO-interested person, e.g. Members, UFO Groups, Researchers. This is no fault of the Editors at all, and I am quite sure that both the "Irish UFO News" and "EUFOG Journal" will continue to expand within the confines of the subject. But when you actually look at UFO magazines that are available to the public via shops in Britain, I'm afraid the choice is none existent. We have, of course, Flying Saucer Review, which is available via subscription and MUFOR magazine which besides subscribing is available also from two book shops in London. In Britain you can buy magazines in shops dealing with Aircraft, Knitting, Shooting, Cooking, Pigeons, Skateboarding, Hi Fi, etc., but no national UFO Magazine. Perhaps in the past one has been attempted, but I have never heard of one. What is needed is a publication that can educate the General Public on the subject of UFO's. In America there are many available on newstands, e.g. Official UFO, UFOlogy, Flying Saucers, etc., and they appear to be very successful indeed. But if a magazine was produced, would the people buy it? I think yes. Some years ago there used to be a magazine published in the North West entitled "Phenomena". It

was sold in shops throughout Manchester and was very successful. It covered all subjects, e.g. UFOs, Ghosts, ESP, etc., and included some good contributors, Ken Roach, Christopher Lee, Patrick Moore. The reason it is no longer printed is because the editor wished to devote more time to other subjects. MAPIT had two articles published last year in the Stockport Express with the help of a young journalist, Bob Westerdale. They brought in over 300 letters from the general public stating their sightings/theories, etc., This year, with the tremendous UFO activity of this country and the coverage in the Media, public interest in UFOs has never been higher. All UFO groups are recording increases in membership. So it would seem the time is right to introduce a national UFO Magazine. But how do you go about starting one? Perhaps the answer lies in Regional Networks, to introduce a local magazine in, say, the North West. The biggest stumbling block to this venture would be Money. Well produced magazines on glossy paper or similar would be an idea. The idea of a regional magazine would be more practical at first. Public relations/Advertising could be concentrated to more effect in an area familiar to the organisers. How would you gain adequate funds for the magazine? Well, I'm open to ideas, but perhaps a local printer could assist, or a sponsor (IPC Magazines). I believe with the correct format and content, this UFO Magazine would be successful. Some UFO researchers say, "We have not got the time to educate the public". What they seem to forget is that they were once the public and just because they were not educated as I suggest, does not mean that others should be ignored. We always need new faces in UFOlogy and a magazine would encourage more involvement from people to the subject. So come on, you UFO Magazine Editors, let me know what you think of this idea.

.....QUOTES AND NOTES.....

"Figures don't lie, but liars can figure".....ANON.

"During the ensuing year there will be authenticated sightings of roughly 200 UFOs, of which the pentagon will be able to disprove 210*.....LIFE Jan 6 1958.

, POEMS

Why does the future become the past?

Why does the future never last?

And will tomorrow become today,

Only to fade away - just like yesterday?

Jenny Randles.

Why Love? Why Cry?

Why Live? Why Die?

WHY NOT?

Lynne Bates.

NOTHING TO DO WITH UFOs

Notice in a Bradford University Lecture Room: "There will be a fire drill at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday. Should there be a real fire at the time, the drill will be cancelled".

Times Educational Supplement.

"A conference is just an admission that you want someone to join you in your trouble".

Will Rogers.

DID YOU KNOW?

After thoughtful translation, the film "King Kong" was released in Denmark under the title "Kong King" so that it would not affront the Royal Family.

Daily Mirror - 22nd Sept. 1977.

COMMENT FROM DAVID BOWIE - STAR OF THE FILM "THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH"

"I was talking to John Glenn, the moonshot astronaut and we stayed up late in the night. We were just talking for hours and the atmosphere got very maudlin. He was staring into his drink and out of nowhere he said: "I saw more up there than I care to talk about". He was quiet for a while longer then he said: "Earth is not alone". And however hard I pressed him, he wouldn't explain what he meant. But I could tell from his tone that he was telling the truth. I believed him totally".

Record Mirror - Sept.24th 1977.

MORE POEMS

Where do they come from, balls of light?
Silently they ride the night
Orange, yellow, green and white,
They stretch the mind in sonic flight.
Ships that ride the stellar waves,
Or feelings tapped from icy graves?
Are we brothers, ants or slaves?
From outer world or inner caves?

Jenny Randles.

A Rabbit always seems a rabbit,
If you have the rabbit habit,
But if you choose to change your view
You just might find its Rabbit stew.

Allen H. Greenfield.

"If you've never seen a UFO you're not very observant, and if you've seen as many as I have, you won't believe in them".

Arthur C Clarke

Author of "2001"

Why Loves? Why Dies?
Why Lives? Why Dies?

WHY NOT?

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